

Statement

Most Notable Violations in July 2017

Syrian Regime Forces and
International Coalition Forces
Lead a most Vicious Military
Campaign in the East Region

SNHR

SYRIAN NETWORK FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

الشبكة السورية لحقوق الإنسان

Wednesday, August 9, 2017

The Syrian Network for Human Rights, founded in June 2011, is a non-governmental, non-profit independent organization that is a primary source for the United Nations on all death toll-related statistics in Syria



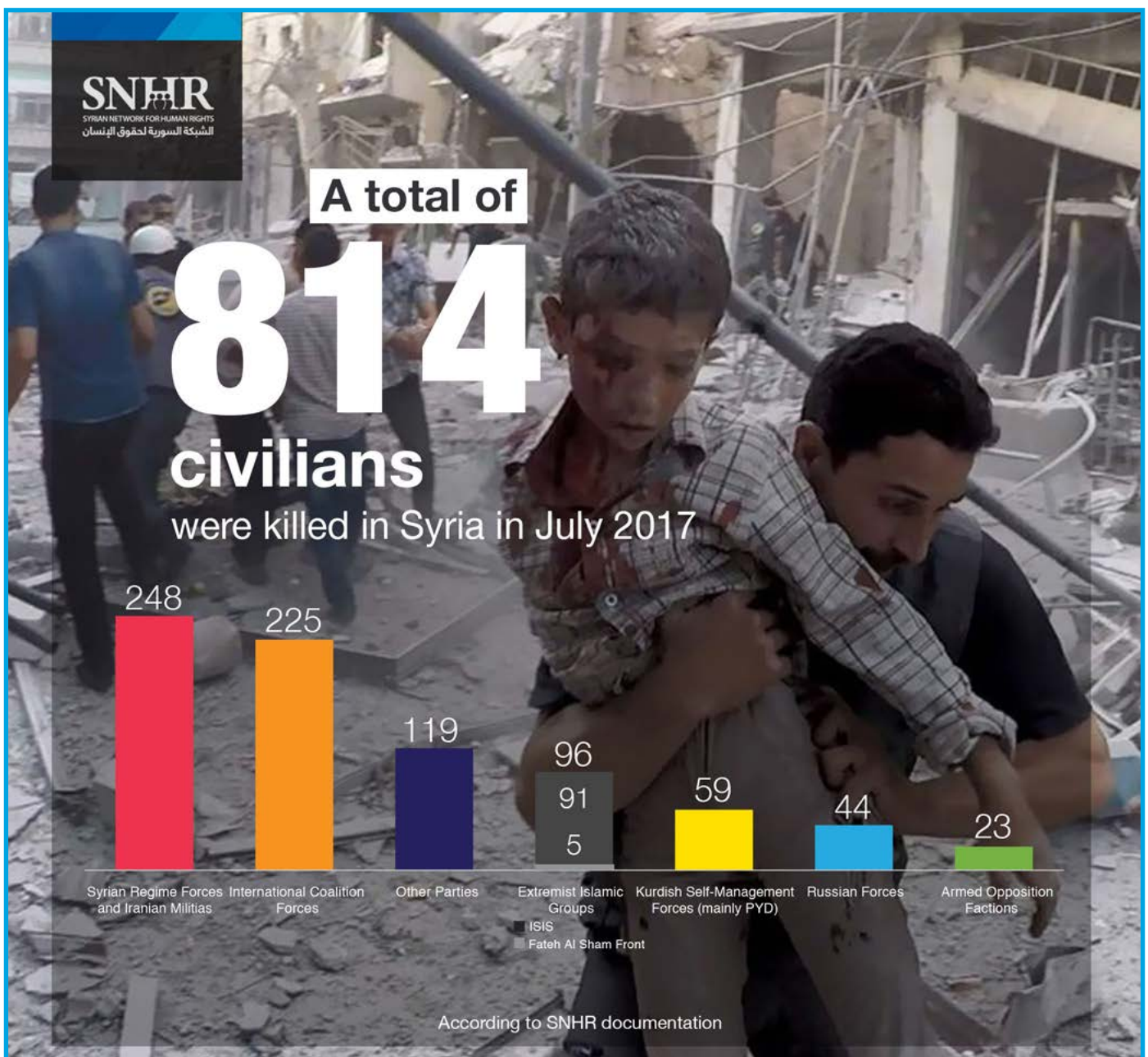
SNHR has released eight reports with the start of July 2017, documenting the most notable violations that were perpetrated by the seven parties to the conflict in Syria in July 2017 - civilian death toll, victims due to torture, most notable violations against media activists, most notable violations against medical and civil defense personnel and their respective facilities, toll of arbitrary arrests, most notable massacres, barrel bombs use, and most notable incidents of attack on vital civilian facilities. The reports outline the most notable violations documented by SNHR in July 2017, and highlight the impact of the agreements on the rates of violations perpetrated by the parties to the conflict in July. The de-escalation agreement was announced at the end of the fourth round of negotiation in Astana, Kazakhstan's capital, and came into effect on Saturday, May 6, 2017. The de-escalation agreement was followed by South Syria Agreement, which was announced by the American and Russian presidents, following the 2017 G20 summit. The agreement went into effect at 12:00 on Sunday, July 9, 2017.

These reports draw upon the daily documentation processes during July, where SNHR, through its scattered members throughout the Syrian region, monitors violations by the parties to the conflict, and publishes most notable news, before releasing a preliminary death toll at the end of each day. For more information, please see our documentation and archiving [methodology](#).



The first report, entitled: “[814 Civilians Killed in July 2017](#)”, documents the civilian deaths at the hands of the parties to the conflict. The report reflects that Syrian regime forces and international coalition forces maintained the same pace of killing for the third month in a row, whereas the Syrian regime remains the party who has killed civilians the most. The report shows that civilian deaths in Raqqa exceeded all other governorates with 256 civilians – 43% of them were at the hands of international coalition forces, while Deir Ez-Zour governorate came second with 169 civilians – 37% of them were killed by Syrian regime forces.

A chart showing the toll of civilian deaths in July 2017 and its distribution by the parties to the conflict.



The report “[18 Individuals Died due to Torture in July 2017](#)” stresses that the Syrian regime’s machine of killing and torture remains intact despite the de-escalation agreements. The report documents 18 victims who died due to torture inside the official and non-official Syrian regime detention centers. Among the victims were one engineer, one university student, and one child.

An infographic showing deaths due to torture in Syria in July 2017, and their distribution by the parties to the conflict



The infographic features a background image of a dark, debris-filled hallway in a damaged building. In the top left corner, there is a logo for SNHR (Syrian Network for Human Rights) with the text 'الشبكة السورية لحقوق الإنسان' below it. The main text is centered and reads: 'No less than 18 deaths due to torture in Syria at the hands of Syrian Regime Forces in July 2017'. The number '18' is significantly larger and in red. At the bottom center, it says 'According to SNHR documentation'.



The report “[Two Media Activists Killed, Two Injured, and Four Arrested, Toll of July 2017](#)” says that July was the first month in which Syrian regime forces haven’t killed at least one media activist since May 2016. Extremist Islamic groups, on the other hand, were responsible for the most violations against media activists -in terms of both killing and arrest- this month.

An infographic showing the death toll among media activists in July 2017, and its distribution by the parties to the conflict



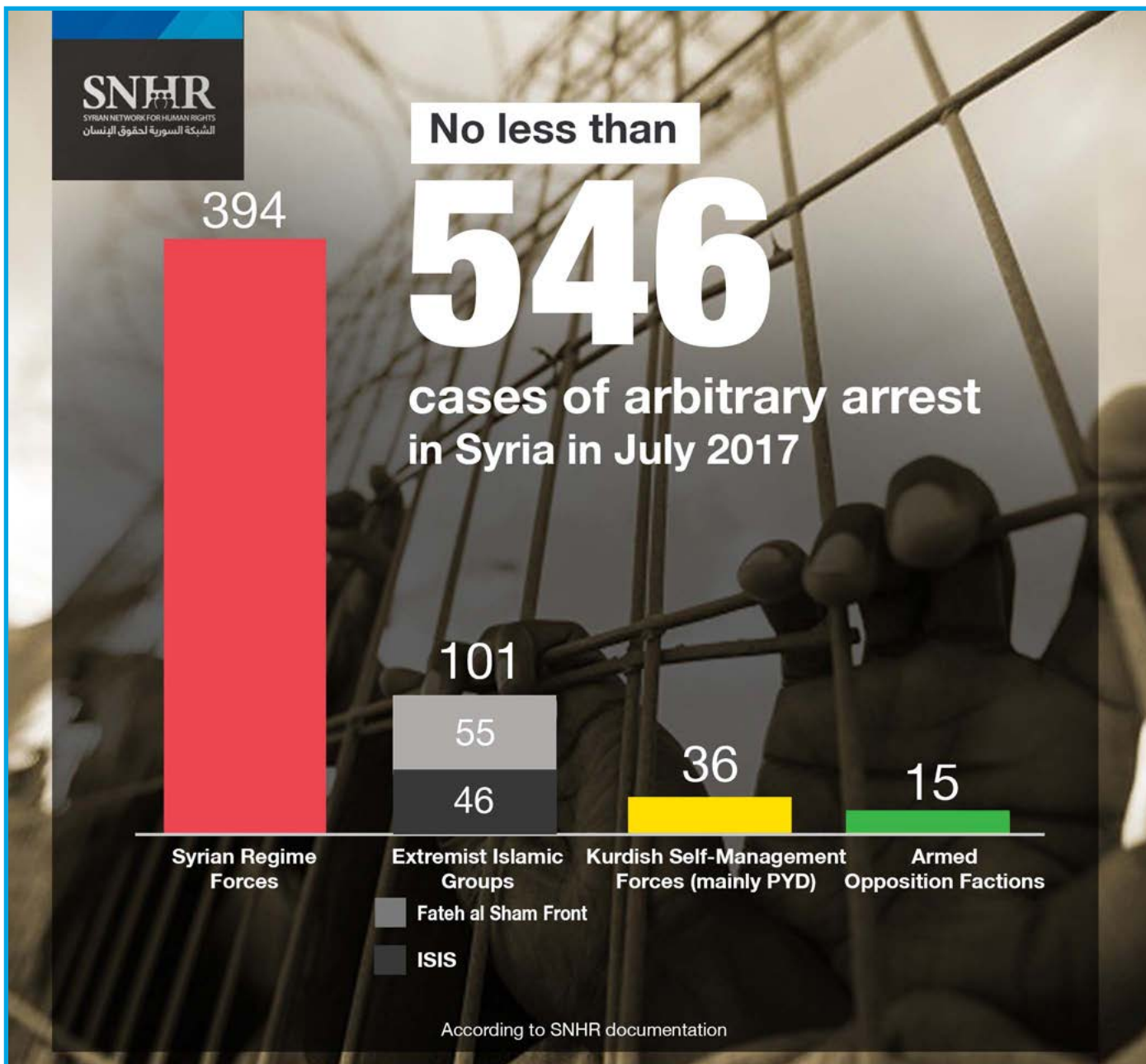
The report, “[Four Medical and Civil Defense Personnel Killed, and Seven Incidents of Attack on their Vital Facilities in July 2017](#)”, records that the Syrian regime was responsible for the most violations against medical and civil defense personnel and their respective facilities, which were concentrated in Damascus suburbs governorate. Medical facilities and civil defense facilities in Idlib governorate, on the other hand, saw a number of violations in light of the security uneasiness between Ahrar al Sham Islamic Movement, an armed opposition faction, and Hay’at Tahrir al Sham.

An infographic showing violations against medical and civil defense personnel and their respective operable facilities in July 2017



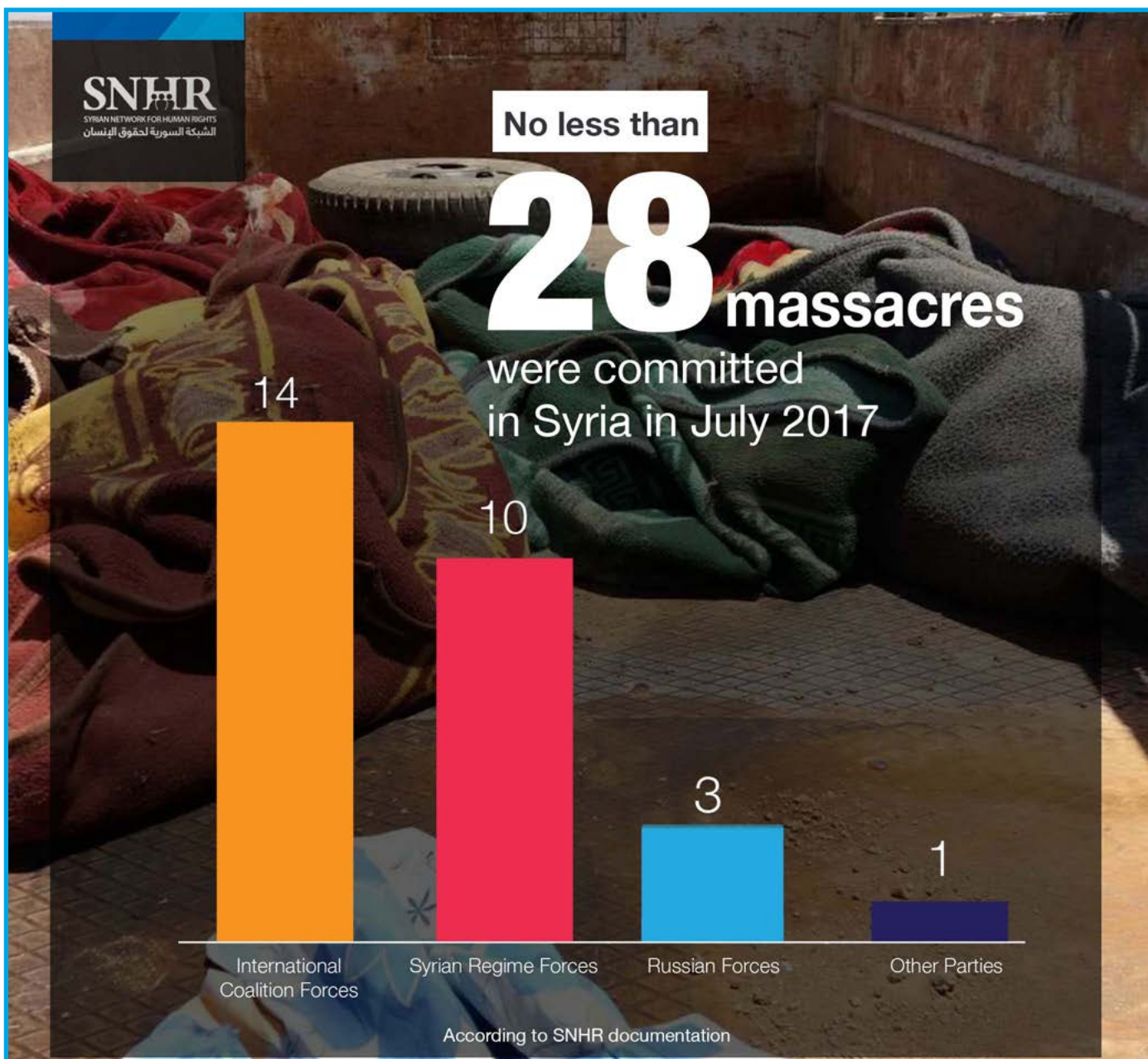
The report “[No less than 546 Cases of Arbitrary Arrest Recorded in July 2017](#)” notes that no less than 546 individuals, including 37 children and 71 women, were arrested at the hands of the parties to the conflict in Syria this month. Of those, 73% were arrested by Syrian regime forces. Also, the report records a rise in the rates of arbitrary arrests made by Fateh al Sham Front (formerly al Nusra Front) against activists, workers at relief groups, and fighters from armed opposition factions in Idlib governorate.

A chart showing the toll of arbitrary arrests in July 2017, and its distribution by the parties to the conflict



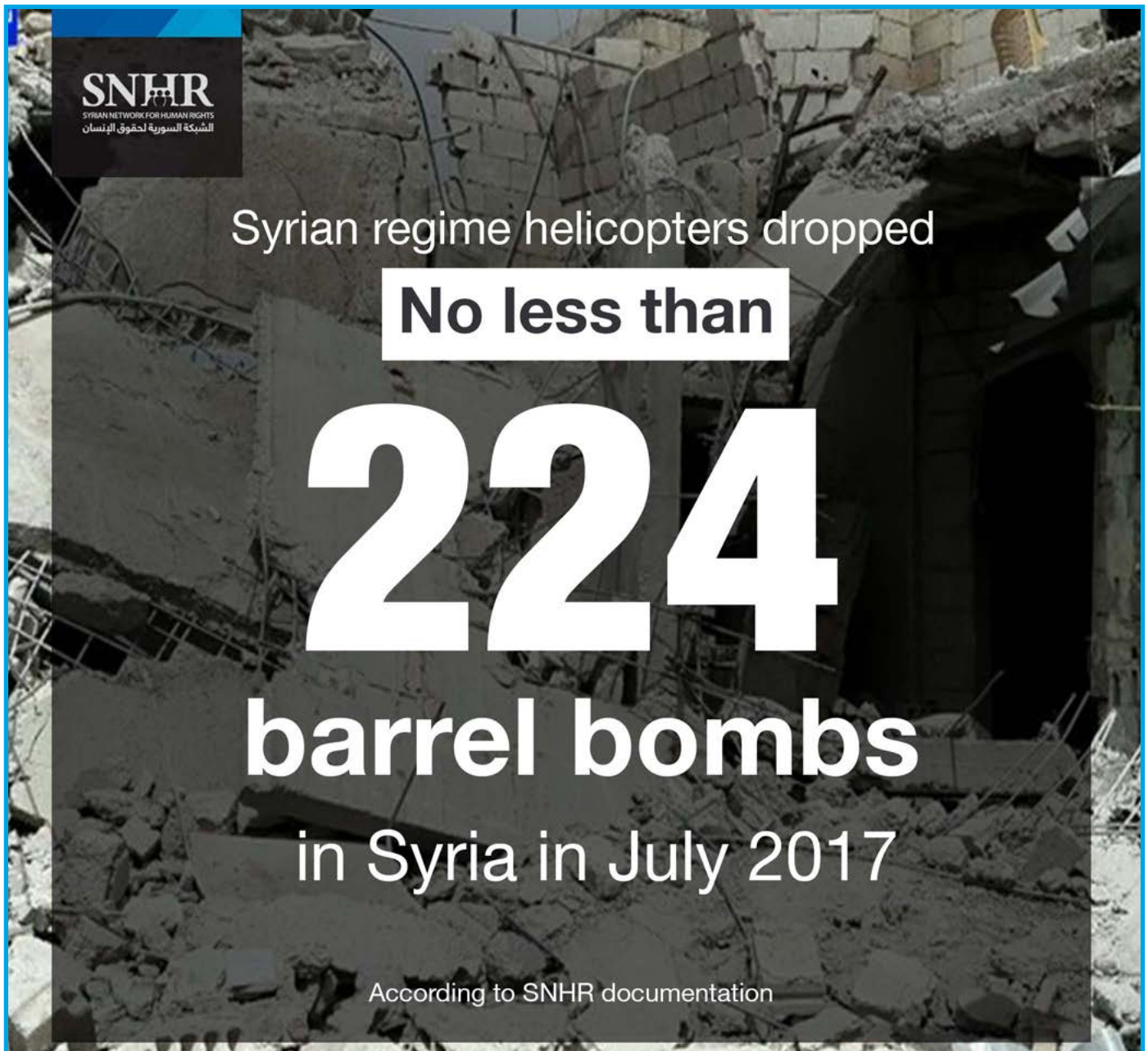
According to the report “[No less than 28 Massacres in July 2017](#)”, international coalition forces perpetrated the most massacres against civilians for the third month in a row following the commencement of the de-escalation agreement, as international coalition forces were responsible for 50% of massacres. Syrian regime forces, on the other hand, were responsible for 36% of the total number of massacres. Raqqa governorate saw the most massacres across all governorates, where we recorded 13 massacres in Raqqa, including nine by international coalition forces. Deir Ez-Zour governorate came second with seven massacres, including five massacres by Syrian regime forces. The report notes that the size of the massacres and the used level of force imply that damages, in the form of civilian deaths, were too excessive when compared to the anticipated military benefit.

A chart showing the massacres of July 2017, and their distribution by the parties to the conflict



The report “[No less than 224 Barrel Bombs in July 2017](#)” notes that there has been an unprecedented drop in the use of barrel bombs by Syrian regime forces compared to what has been documented since March 2016 - when the first Cessation of Hostilities ceasefire went into effect on February 27, 2016. We also recorded a significant drop in the number of barrel bombs used by Syrian regime forces following the South Syria Agreement's commencement.

An infographic showing the toll of barrel bombs use in July 2017



SNHR
SYRIAN NETWORK FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
الشبكة السورية لحقوق الإنسان

Syrian regime helicopters dropped

No less than

224

barrel bombs

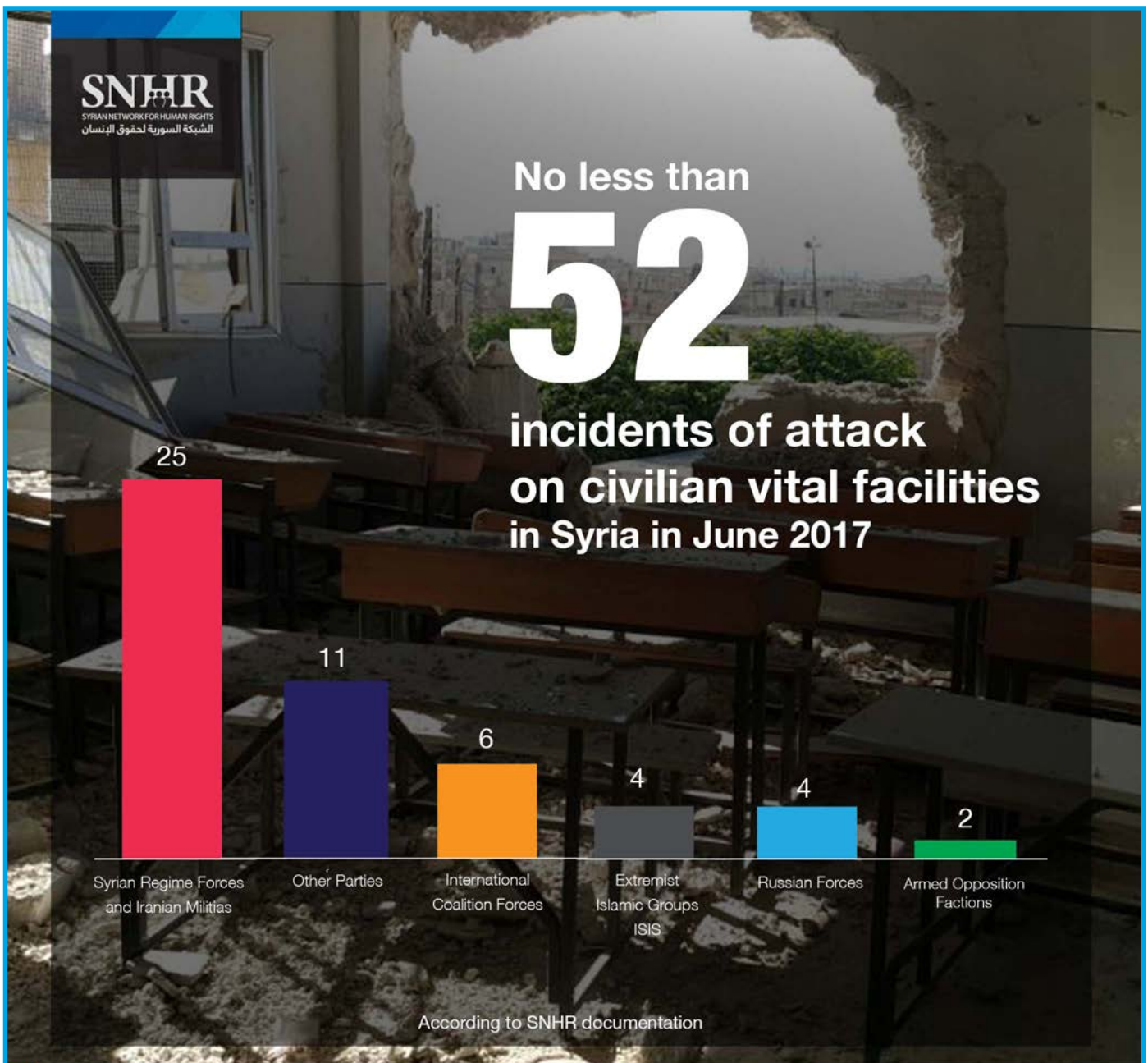
in Syria in July 2017

According to SNHR documentation



The report “[No less than 52 Incidents of Attack on Vital Civilian Facilities in July 2017](#)” stresses that Syrian regime forces was the party that attacked vital civilian facilities the most, as 25 incidents of attack were by Syrian regime forces including 10 on schools, eight on mosques, and five on markets. This constitutes an explicit sign that civilians and their facilities were deliberately harmed.

A chart showing the incidents of attack on vital civilian facilities in July 2017 and their distribution by the parties to the conflict





@snhr



Info@sn4hr.org

www.sn4hr.org

